

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, today we are solemnly commemorating the seventh anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks. September 11th changed all of our lives. It is important that we take this opportunity to remember those who lost their lives, and those brave men and women who came to the aid of the victims. We will always be indebted to the first responders, nurses, doctors, counselors and volunteers who have tended to the wounds inflicted by Al Qaeda terrorists just 7 years ago.

As our hearts and national character continue to absorb the pain of that tragic day, we understand that our greatest healings have come from unity. We gain strength through the compatriotism of our fellow citizens, and extend our hands of help as others do the same for us.

Following September 11, 2001, our country saw a meteoric rise in volunteerism, community service and national service program enrollment. When our Nation was at its darkest, the light of unity gave us direction towards a brighter future. Men and women from every walk of life answered the call of history to become active and serve their country in any way they could.

I commend those who have committed their day to giving back. Today, dozens of organizations and thousands of individuals are turning their grief, respect, and remembrance into action and service to their community. This national day of service is patriotism manifested. Service confronts the cynicism and hopelessness of terrorism, and exemplifies our national foundation of justice, equality, and fellowship. The work being done today throughout the country renews the spirit of unity that followed tragedy. A national day of service gives our country a new tradition that I hope will grow for generations to come.

Once again, I want to thank those who have dedicated their efforts to ensuring that our country is protected against and prepared for any future terrorist attack. I also wish to remember those lives lost during the brutal attacks on September 11, 2001. As we pass the Resolution today, we are honoring the heroic service, actions, and sacrifices of Americans who so bravely came together after 9/11.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

First, I would like to offer my deepest condolences to her entire family, especially her son Mervyn and her sister Barbara. I want to also offer my condolences to the constituents of Ohio's Eleventh Congressional District, to all of her many friends, her colleagues—especially in the Congressional Black Caucus—and of course to her staff here in Washington and in Ohio.

On August 20, 2008 the people of Cleveland, this Nation and the world lost a giant in the fight for equality and justice when we lost my beloved friend and colleague Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

So many know Congresswoman TUBBS JONES for her exceptional work on behalf of her constituents and for the many barriers she broke and trails she blazed as the first African American woman elected to Congress from Ohio, as the first African American woman to serve on the powerful Ways and Means Committee, and as the first to chair the House Ethics Committee.

Congresswoman TUBBS JONES and I came to Congress about the same time. We worked closely together for a decade and she was one of the most remarkable persons I have ever known. Whether it was standing up for Ohio voters and fighting for election reform or fighting to end the unjust war and occupation in Iraq, she always stood on the right side of justice.

She was a political giant, a skilled legislator, an incredible orator, but she was much more than that to me. She was also my sister in arms, my confidant, and my friend. We spent many an evening in Washington together throughout our decade long friendship.

From attending events together, to just grabbing dinner or an occasional down moment, we've spent a great deal of time throughout the years. We also spent many mornings together. You see STEPHANIE was also my gym partner along with Congresswoman LAURA RICHARDSON.

STEPHANIE and I also had the chance to travel together on several occasions to places like Cuba and Israel. I will always treasure those times and memories. It was during some of our travel together, and our work together for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, that I got the chance to know her

husband, Mervyn Jones, whom she loved dearly and tragically lost in October 2003.

In the wake of his death, STEPHANIE created a scholarship golf tournament in his memory, which has become a successful annual event. I know she would be pleased that a scholarship has been now arranged in her honor.

Unquestionably, her passing has left a tremendous hole in the Congress, in the Congressional Black Caucus, and in my heart. I will miss my beautiful friend and sister, Congresswoman TUBBS JONES so very much.

My thoughts and prayers remain with the Congresswoman's entire family, her son Mervyn, her sister Barbara, her staff, her friends and her many supporters.

May her soul rest in peace..

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my colleagues to remember and celebrate the life of a dear friend and colleague, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. It is during times like these that we are both able to smile, thinking about those who we admired and who have distinctly touched our lives—and in the case of STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES—touched the lives of thousands of Clevelanders who were so devoted to her and she to them. And of course, we sadly mourn the death of a woman who was dedicated to making the lives of Ohioans and Americans better. From increasing the minimum wage to making healthcare available to all, STEPHANIE was at the forefront, fighting for all of our families.

Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES is the real-life American success story. Born to a factory worker and skycap, STEPHANIE went to public schools in Ohio, then became a prosecutor and municipal judge and finally, the first African-American woman from Ohio elected to the United States Congress. Nearly 10 years ago, she was a little-known Democrat from Ohio who rose to prominence becoming Chair of the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and a member of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee.

Like so many, STEPHANIE was taken from us too soon and too abruptly. I extend my sincerest condolences to STEPHANIE's family and especially to her beloved son, Mervyn. Your mom was a great lady and a wonderful friend. We will all miss her dearly.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN MEMORIAL OF W.D. MOHAMMED

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness I rise today to mourn the passing of Imam W.D. Mohammed—the spiritual leader for millions of American Muslims. Imam Mohammed was accepted by his followers to lead The Nation of Islam in 1975 after the passing of his father, Elijah Muhammad, leader and builder of The Nation of Islam. Imam Mohammed led Americans toward tolerance, inclusion and civic engagement.

In 1992 he delivered the very first Invocation in the United States Senate given by a Muslim. He gave an Islamic Prayer at both of President Clinton's Inaugural Interfaith Prayer Services.

His dedication to interfaith dialogue led him to address the Muslim-Jewish Conference in 1996 with leaders of Islam and Reform Judaism. He met with Pope John Paul II on two occasions including in 1999 on the "eve of the New Millennium" in St. Peter's Basilica with other world religious leaders. He served on the Advisory Panel for Religious Freedom Abroad, formed by then Secretary of State, Madeline Albright. He was at his best promoting religious freedom in America and abroad.

Imam Mohammed's loss is immense. His life was led and lived by his faith—a faith that inspired him to reach across the divides of many religions; to knock down the walls of division and search for the commonalities that all faiths share: peace and understanding.

The Imam believed he had a responsibility to speak out on the social issues of the day, taking it upon himself to apply scriptural interpretation to those issues. His leadership was recognized by all.

The world is smaller today because of the passing of the Imam. We all would do well to stop and listen to the lessons left behind by Imam W.D. Mohammed. May his soul continue to guide leaders and legions alike to the world of peace and understanding.

GREATER BOSTON INSTITUTIONS
CONFER TWO AWARDS**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I have had the honor for many years of sharing with the Members information about awards being presented to individuals who have performed extraordinary service to others in the field of medical services.

These awards are presented by "ROFEH International—New England Chassidic Center," under the leadership of Grand Rabbi Levi Y. Horowitz, which provides help across the world in giving access to the first-class medical treatment that we in the Greater Boston area are fortunate to enjoy. Rabbi Horowitz himself has been a distinguished leader in the field of medical ethics, and his dedication to seeing that access to the medical services he has helped support and defend is a great

asset to us all. On November 23, 2008, at the Grand Ballroom of the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, the Annual Dinner of ROFEH International—New England Chassidic Center will honor, as it always does, two individuals who have distinguished themselves by their dedication to others, and the great skill they bring to those tasks. The ROFEH International Award goes to Dr. John B. Mulliken, and the Man of the Year Award is being presented to Mr. Herbert M. Gann.

Madam Speaker, the work in the medical area organized and inspired by Grand Rabbi Horowitz is a superb example of how Americans can best work together to enhance the quality of all of our lives. To Dr. Mulliken, to Mr. Gann, and to Rabbi Horowitz and his fellow and sister workers in this endeavor, I extend my congratulations, but even more important, my thanks for what they do for all of us.

Madam Speaker, I ask that these remarks be printed here along with the relevant biographical information about Dr. Mulliken and Mr. Gann.

MR. HERBERT M. GANN, ROFEH INTERNATIONAL NEW ENGLAND CHASSIDIC CENTER
MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Mr. Herbert Gann lived in Chelsea, Massachusetts until 1946 when he and his parents, Joseph and Rae Gann, and his two sisters, Beverly and Shirley, moved to Newton, Massachusetts.

He graduated Newton High School in 1951 and Boston University with a BS and BA in 1955. Mr. Gann served in the United States Army in Germany from 1956–1958.

Herb started working part time in Joseph Gann Inc., while in high school; continued in college and started working full time after graduating in 1955. He worked together with his father, Joseph Gann, until his father retired in December 2000. Mr. Herbert Gann has been the owner of Joseph Gann Jewelers, in Boston since 1987.

He learned charity from both his parents and is a very philanthropic person in his own right. His interest in Jewish Education started when his oldest daughter, Elisa, enrolled in Solomon Schechter Day School, in 1970. He continues to support that school along with Rashi Jewish Community Day School, Metro West Day School, and Gann Academy. He also supports the work of Combined Jewish Philanthropies.

Herb and Rita Gann are members of Temple Emanuel, Congregation Beth El Atereth Israel and Congregation Agdus Achim-Anshe Sfard.

Mr. Gann started going to the Rebbe's Dinners at the time they honored Reverend Louis Lourie, over 28 years ago. His interest in the Rebbe's work evolved and Mr. Gann has been on the dinner committee for many years.

Herb Gann married Rita (Kaplan) Gann in 1964. Rita was hired in 1962 as the bookkeeper at Joseph Gann Jewelers and continues to work alongside her husband. They have four children and five grandchildren.

JOHN B. MULLIKEN, MD—ROFEH
INTERNATIONAL AWARD

John B. Mulliken, M.D., received his medical degree in 1964 from Columbia University, College of Physicians & Surgeons. Following his surgical residency and a research fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital, Dr. Mulliken served in the U.S. Army in Korea and at Ft. Devens, Massachusetts. After his military service, Dr. Mulliken completed a residency in plastic surgery at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Maryland.

Board-certified in general surgery and plastic surgery, Dr. Mulliken is an Associate

Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School and a Senior Associate in Surgery at Children's Hospital Boston. In addition to being director of the Vascular Anomalies Center, Dr. Mulliken is director of the Craniofacial Centre. He also holds an appointment at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

A Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Dr. Mulliken is the co-founder and past president of the International Society for the Study of Vascular Anomalies, and a diplomat of both the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Plastic Surgery. In 1998, he was the recipient of an honorary degree from Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels.

Dr. Mulliken is the author of 185 original scientific articles; dozens of reviews, journal discussions, and editorials; nearly 40 chapters; and two books, including *Vascular Birthmarks: Hemangiomas and Malformations*, coauthored with British surgeon Anthony E. Young, M.A., M. Chir., F.R.C.S. (Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Co., 1988; 483 pgs.).

Dr. Mulliken's clinical interests include craniofacial anomalies, cleft lip/palate, and vascular anomalies. His basic research is focused on molecular causes of craniofacial and vascular anomalies.

Dr. Mulliken developed the current, now widely-accepted classification system for vascular anomalies, which divides them into two major categories based on their etiology. Considered one of the world's foremost experts in vascular anomalies, Dr. Mulliken is frequently invited to lecture at hospitals around the globe and is host to many visiting scholars and physicians interested in vascular anomalies.

HONORING BOOKS FOR AFRICA
FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE SEPTEMBER 11, 2008**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mrs. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the work of an internationally recognized non-governmental organization based in St. Paul, Minnesota that for the past 20 years has helped to transform the lives of millions of people—young and old—across the continent of Africa. With commitment and a passion for putting a book in the hands of children and elders hungry for knowledge, Books for Africa is an organization that has shipped more than 20 million books to more than 35 African countries since 1988. In so many African cities, towns and rural schools, where students had no access to books, there are now books for learning, enjoyment, and to experience the wonders of the world.

Mr. Tom Warth is the founder of Books for Africa, and he is an inspirational humanitarian. Tom's vision, enthusiasm, and his on-going commitment, along with the work of all of the board of directors of Books for Africa, continues to transform lives by facilitating the shipment of container after container of books that put real books in the hands of real people.

Now, under the strong leadership of Mr. Pat Plonsky, I am proud to continue my office's ongoing relationship with Books for Africa. Their collaborations with Peace Corps volunteers, the State Department, and the U.S.

Agency for International Development (USAID) enables the U.S. to demonstrate both its generosity and its willingness to provide a tangible learning tool. Last year, in partnership with USAID's Africa Education Initiative, 18 containers of books were delivered to Ghana, Liberia, Madagascar, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zambia. All told, Books for Africa delivered 119 containers of books in 2007 to 22 countries, a truly impressive accomplishment.

This form of public diplomacy—putting the book in the hands of a child or elder—is truly the best face of America and should not only be sustained, but expanded. In the U.S. we take books for granted, but we should never forget the power of a book. And, when they are distributed by the millions, the benefit cannot be overstated.

Let me conclude by also recognizing the extraordinary effort of the volunteers for Books for Africa, as well as the donations of high quality books from publishers, schools and organizations. This combined and coordinated effort is transforming lives. If this generosity and determination to provide books can continue to match the hunger for knowledge, learning, and education by the children and adults all across the African continent then we will have even greater accomplishments to celebrate in the future.

Again, congratulations to Books for Africa for 20 years of extraordinary work to build a bridge of knowledge, education and hope between Minnesota and communities all across Africa.

A TRIBUTE TO RICHFIELD'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I am honored to congratulate the citizens of Richfield, Minnesota on the celebration of the city's 100th anniversary.

Richfield is a diverse, vibrant community whose history mirrors that of the State of Minnesota. Originally, the territory was inhabited by the Ojibwe and Dakota tribes, and, in the late 18th century, was claimed by the French. The territory was first settled in 1852 by Riley Bartholomew on the eastern shore of Wood Lake; the Bartholomew homestead remains there to this day, and is listed on the National and Minnesota Registers of Historic Places. In 1804, the territory was purchased by the United States Government from France as a part of the Louisiana Purchase, and in the years following, would become a village, revered for the fertile texture of its soil and its farming communities. Richfield's economy would remain focused on agricultural commodities until the conclusion of World War II.

Today, Richfield is a prosperous community, home to families, education facilities, businesses, community organizations, wetlands and parks. The city will celebrate its first century this year by remembering the past. In honor of the city's centennial, a statue of Charles W. Lindberg, who helped to raise the United States flag atop the island of Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945, will be dedicated at Veterans Park on July 4, 2009. The dedication

will also include a memorial to all veterans from Richfield.

I am honored to represent the residents of Richfield, Minnesota in the United States House of Representatives, and I applaud everyone, past or present, who contributed to the history of this great city. I hope the events scheduled to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the city are enjoyed by all residents and I look forward to making the next 100 years just as successful as the previous century.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 588, Adjournment, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 585, Approval of the Journal, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 586, H. Res. 1420, Recognizing September 11 as a day of remembrance, extending sympathies to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and their families, honoring the heroic actions of our nation's first responders and Armed Forces, and reaffirming the commitment to defending the people of the United States against any and all future challenges, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 587, H.R. 6531, To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE WEST HAVEN ITALIAN-AMERICAN CIVIC ASSOCIATION AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the members of the West Haven Italian-American Civic Association as they celebrate a remarkable milestone—their 50th Anniversary. As they mark this golden anniversary, their many members and their families can be proud of all that they have contributed and continue to contribute to our community.

My hometown of New Haven, Connecticut and its surrounding communities have always had a large and very proud Italian-American population. Over the years, a number of Italian-American clubs and organizations were formed by small groups within different neighborhoods and most were dedicated to particular towns or regions in the old country or were affiliated with certain Saints or religious societies. It was, is still today, a means of preserving and celebrating the traditions and culture brought to America from Italy.

The founders of the West Haven Italian-American Civic Association wanted to create a place where all Americans of Italian descent

could meet and socialize—an organization that was more general in its appeal and that encompassed all that the local Italian-American communities had to offer. They also wanted to create an organization that would allow them to give back to the community and country that had offered them so many opportunities and blessings.

After the official incorporation of both the West Haven Italian-American Civic Association and its sister organization, the West Haven Italian American Auxiliary, member contributions made possible the purchase of a plot of land and through the volunteer efforts of the membership, the buildings and grounds were renovated and improved. In less than a decade, because of increased membership, it became clear that they would need additional space for their meetings and social gatherings. Once again the generosity and volunteer efforts of the club's membership allowed them to build a new meeting hall which is still used today.

The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association has always been more than a social organization. One of their founding principles was a commitment to give back to the community in which they and their families had found the opportunity to prosper. Through the years, local schools, service organizations, police, fire, and volunteer organizations have all benefited from the generosity of the Association's members. Through its Civic and Welfare Fund, more than \$70,000 has been contributed to various causes. The Association also sponsors numerous youth sports teams and offers free use of their hall for, among many things, school bingos, sports affairs, and community fundraisers. It is not an exaggeration to say that the Association and the Auxiliary have not only realized the vision of the founding members, but have far exceeded them.

For their many invaluable contributions, I am proud to stand today to pay tribute to the membership—past and present—of the West Haven Italian-American Civic Association and Auxiliary as they mark their golden anniversary. I have no doubt that they and future generations of members will continue to make a difference in the lives of others leaving an indelible mark on our community. My very best wishes for another 50 years of success!

IN HONOR OF THE POLISH LEGION OF AMERICAN VETERANS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Polish Legion of American Veterans (PLAV) on the occasion of their 39th Biennial National Convention and in recognition of their dedication to veterans' issues and to the community. I am proud to be an honorary member of the Polish Legion of American Veterans and of the leadership of the National Commander, Ernest Stetz.

PLAV, founded in 1920, is comprised of American veterans of Polish descent who actively engage in the community through education, charitable and civic activities. In addition to civic engagement, founding PLAV members worked for an independent Poland,

in congruence with President Woodrow Wilson's "Fourteen Points." President Ronald Reagan signed an Act of Congress, P.L. 98-372, on July 23, 1984, granting the Polish Legion of America a Federal Charter. There are over five posts in my congressional district which host events and volunteer within the community, with dozens more around the country.

The members of PLAV work collectively to ensure that all those who served our country are provided with benefits and work with Congress to support legislation necessary to ensuring that veterans receive these benefits. This year's National Convention features Robert Kupiecki, Ambassador and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Poland.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Polish Legion of American Veterans and in recognition of their outstanding community service and dedication to our Nation's veterans. Their involvement in the community is invaluable; may their work in the community serve as an example for us all.

CONGRATULATING U.S. OLYMPIANS JENNIFER KAIDO AND BEEZIE MADDEN UPON THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES IN BEIJING, CHINA

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jennifer Kaido and Beezie Madden upon their accomplishments as participants in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. These athletes embody the true spirit of the Olympic games and I am proud to represent them.

Jennifer Kaido grew up in West Leyden, New York and is a 1999 graduate of Adirondack High School. In Beijing, Jennifer competed as a rower in the Women's Quadruple Sculls and her crew finished ranked fifth in the world. Beezie Madden, a resident of Cazenovia, New York competing with her horse, Authentic, brought home two medals as a member of the U.S. Equestrian Team.

Jennifer Kaido began her Olympic participation on August 10, 2008, when her Quadruple Sculls' crew finished third in their initial heat. In the repechage, they finished in second place, which qualified them for the finals. In the finals, the American crew valiantly rowed their way to an impressive fifth place finish.

At one time Jennifer's journey to Beijing seemed unlikely. It is my understanding that Jennifer had never rowed prior to trying out for the crew team her senior year at Cornell. She is proof positive that through hard work and determination anything is truly possible. Her rapid ascension in her sport to the level of Olympian is simply amazing. Moreover, it has been widely accounted that Jennifer competed in China with a level-headed attitude along with a deep love for her family and community.

Beezie Madden returns home from Beijing as one of the world's greatest equestrian jumpers. She followed up on her gold medal performance in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens by again earning gold in the Team

jumping competition. Astride her horse, Authentic, she also won a bronze medal in the individual jumping competition. In addition to these accomplishments, Beezie has earned many accolades throughout her career, including being named the U.S. Equestrian Federation Equestrian of the Year in consecutive years; she also has been named the American Grand Prix Association Rider of the Year and the U.S. Olympic Committee's Equestrian of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to extend my sincere congratulations to Jennifer and Beezie upon their accomplishments. They represented our Nation and the residents of central and northern New York extraordinarily well and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PENSACOLA, FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL COALITION OF 100 BLACK WOMEN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the 15th anniversary of the Pensacola Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women. The NCBW of Pensacola is involved intimately in a wide variety of social, religious, economic, and political facets of northwest Florida, and I am proud to recognize its 15 years of service to the Pensacola community.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women is a service and advocacy organization that supports women of color who want to work towards solutions on issues of concern to African-American women and youth. Started in 1971 by a small group of dedicated women from New York, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women quickly grew to over 900 members and organized as a broad national service group in 1981.

The National Coalition installed the Pensacola Chapter on October 1, 1993 with 38 local women as its founding members. The chapter's mission is to empower African-American women and youth through programs that meet their diverse needs. These programs are targeted to support black women at key stages in life and include important activities such as youth mentorship and community service.

Recent examples of the Pensacola Chapter role in the community include its Annual Hat Show and Luncheon to raise money for college scholarships targeted to African-American high school seniors. This event features a fashion show of fancy and unique hats and attracts over 500 people each year. Over the past six years, the Hat Show has raised over \$50,000 for scholarships and has helped close to 100 students launch their college careers. Another key NCBW activity is its Adopt-A-School and Mentoring Program. Each coalition member is paired with a student from a particular school and provides advice and guidance to that student throughout the year.

For 15 years, the Pensacola Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women has provided vital service to the people of northwest Florida. Their devotion to empowering Af-

rican-American women is a true testament to the ability of our citizens to work together in order to better our lives and our country.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the Pensacola Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women for its 15 years of dedicated service to its community.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF
COUNCILWOMAN FANNIE LEWIS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Councilwoman Fannie Lewis, an outspoken leader and profoundly respected member of the Greater Cleveland Community, and to honor a life spent in service to her community.

One of Cleveland's longest-serving Council Members, Councilwoman Lewis was known for her unfailing support and activism for the working class residents of the Greater Cleveland Area. Recognized as a "neighborhood activist," she emerged as the prominent voice for the economically disadvantaged in Cleveland, fighting for their rights regardless of the opposition. Councilwoman Lewis began her career in public service fighting for civil rights and equality in the Hough neighborhood in Cleveland as a recruiter for the Neighborhood Youth Corps during the 1960s. After helping local residents find work and through the Youth Corps, she continued her activism for the residents of Hough Avenue during her tenure in Cleveland's City Council.

She joined the City Council in 1980 and immediately began working on renovating Hough Avenue. Councilwoman Lewis worked tirelessly on housing development in several neighborhoods, pushing for new apartments and houses as well as a large nursing home in Eliza Bryant Village. She challenged local residents to keep their neighborhoods clean. Her tenacious voice for those with educational and economic needs stood in stark contrast to her personable disposition that enabled her to work closely with the residents she represented. Her leadership skills affected all of those around her and she worked around the clock encouraging her residents to stand up for their needs and beliefs.

In addition to her activism for housing and economic development in Cleveland, Councilwoman Lewis pushed for school vouchers for her residents in City Council, giving economically disadvantaged students and their families the opportunity to attend private schools. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Councilwoman Lewis's program in 2002, upholding her voucher program. In 2003, the Fannie Lewis Law, which requires that city residents constitute at least 20 percent of the workforce on any construction projects that receive contracts worth \$100,000 or more, was passed.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Councilwoman Fannie Lewis, whose career in public service is a shining example for public officials and women everywhere. May her pioneering character and exemplary life serve as an example for all of us to follow.

THE RETIREMENT OF SAMMIE C. TWITTY, COMMAND SUITE AND DIRECTOR OF NURSING SERVICES SECRETARY, NAVAL HOSPITAL, PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Ms. Sammie C. Twitty on her retirement as the command suite and director of nursing services secretary, Naval Hospital, Pensacola, Florida in August 2008. Ms. Twitty completed an honorable career of over 40 years dedicated to the Federal Civil Service and served as executive assistant to 11 commanding officers during her tenure.

Ms. Twitty's dedication and influence on the overall mission of the hospital ensured the command was professionally and personally well received throughout the Pensacola area. Her advice on protocol matters, fitness reports, travel, and correspondence was vital to the success of every commanding officer since her arrival in the command suite. She fluidly managed schedules to accommodate complex arrangements and difficult scenarios. Directly responsible for the smooth flow and operation of the front office, she skillfully managed challenging situations with care and thoughtfulness in mind at all times.

Throughout her many years of service she has been the go to person for all administrative functions and greatly enhanced the quality of office operations wherever she worked. She had a direct, positive influence on many young sailors and civil service personnel by distinguishing herself as a loyal, honest, hard-working individual. Her outstanding service has paved the way and set the standard for all who follow. Ms. Twitty's exceptional professional abilities, dedication, attention to detail, initiative, and loyal dedication to duty reflect great credit upon herself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States naval service.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, Vicki and I would like to congratulate Sammie Twitty on her retirement and wish her many more years of success and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, due to personal matters, today I missed rollcall vote No. 585 on approving the Journal, rollcall vote No. 586 on H. Res. 1420 regarding the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, rollcall vote No. 587 on final passage of H.R. 6532 to restore the highway trust fund balance, and rollcall vote No. 588 on the motion to adjourn the House. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each of these four rollcall votes.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SOCIETY OF THE DONAUSCHWABEN'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Society of the Donauschwaben on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. The group is celebrating 50 outstanding years of preserving German culture on August 9, 2008 with a beautiful gala, featuring traditional German dishes and dancing.

Over the past 50 years, the Society of the Donauschwaben has greatly enhanced Cleveland's diverse community in numerous ways. Donauschwaben's German-American Cultural Center in Olmsted Township is an epicenter of German culture in Ohio. The center provides extensive classes in German for young children, teens, and adults and displays traditional German costumes, relics, books, and photographs. The group is also the umbrella organization for several clubs that share German traditions with the Greater Cleveland community through cultural events and programs throughout the year.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Society of the Donauschwaben and congratulating them on 50 years of sharing German culture with the Greater Cleveland community. Their contributions exemplify the diversity and culture that our community is so fortunate to possess.

COMMEMORATING TALA DE WYNTER FOR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NAPA VALLEY COMMUNITY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Tala De Wynter, who has been a pioneer in the Napa County community and is being honored today at the Napa County Hispanic Network 25th Anniversary Gala.

De Wynter was born and educated in Lima, Peru. She has resided in Napa since 1965 with her husband and two children. Since coming to Napa, De Wynter has invested her time in helping others, in creating opportunities and bridging the communication gap in the Latino community. In the 1970s, the Napa Valley was in need of inexpensive healthcare for farm workers and the low-income community. De Wynter, along with other community members established Community Health Clinic Ole. What started off as a small clinic in Rutherford has generated six sites, with six full-time doctors, 10 mid-level providers, and this year it received 1.3 million dollars from Auction Napa Valley.

Continuing the tradition of providing for others, she served as the director of El Centro de Informacion (The Center for Information). The Centro was viewed as a controversial organization for providing services exclusively to the Spanish speaking community. De Wynter and other Latino activists also realized the need to

support young Latinos in their quest for higher education, and in 1984 they founded the Napa County Hispanic Network. The Hispanic Network is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, and will award 25 high school and college students with a \$1,000 scholarship.

De Wynter also started the first immigration consulting business in Napa. She was also the coeditor of Noticias Bilingues del Valle, the Spanish section of the Napa Valley Register and served as the editor of the Spanish language newspaper, Tiempo Latino. De Wynter was also the first Latina woman to be elected to public office in Napa County when she was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Napa Valley Unified School District in 1975.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, Tala De Wynter has earned the respect of her colleagues and community. Through visionary leadership and persuasion Tala De Wynter has created pathways for other leaders in the community to follow. For these reasons and for the lasting impact Community Health Clinic Ole and the Napa County Hispanic Network continue to have in Napa County, it is appropriate that we honor Tala De Wynter.

HONORING SIDNEY PAUL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, for more than five decades Sidney Paul has been involved in social work, including 25 years as the Executive Director of the Mental Health Association of Rockland County.

He has devoted his professional life to serving virtually all segments of his community including five years as a clinician at Rockland Jewish Family Service before his retirement in 2007.

He has been recognized for his outstanding leadership by a number of groups including: the National Association of Social Workers, who named him Social Worker of the Year; the New York State Office of Mental Health, who gave him its Lifetime Achievement Award; the Mental Health Association of Rockland, which awarded him the Joseph R. Bernstein Award; and NAMI-FAMILYA, which gave him the Florence Gould Gross Award.

In 2002 the Mental Health Association of Rockland dedicated the Sidney Paul Center. Sid, as all know him, has been married to Cyrille for 53 years. They have three children Andrew, Amy and David and six grandchildren.

I join with the Rockland Jewish Family Service in honoring Sidney Paul with their Lifetime Achievement Award for the more than half a century of good works he has done for his community and the people in it.

IN HONOR OF THE UAW LOCAL 1050

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the UAW Local 1050 on the occasion of their 60th anniversary, and in

recognition of the Unions' exemplary work in the Greater Cleveland Area.

Cleveland's UAW Local 1050 became a chartered member of the United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America Union (UAW) 60 years ago this month. The UAW is one of North America's largest unions, representing workers from nearly all sectors of the economy. The UAW Local 1050 represents over eight-hundred employees of the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) Cleveland Work's Facility. The facility specializes in manufacturing large aerospace, small aerospace and car and truck wheels. A testament to the workers, the facility is thriving and even during times of economic hardship. The Union members work together to ensure each other's safety and collective success in the workplace. The UAW Local 1050 has numerous committees promoting community including a Veteran's Committee, Women's Committee, Recreational Committee and a Retiree's Committee.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the UAW local 1050 on the occasion of their 60th anniversary, and in recognition of the outstanding work of all of its members.

HONORING MARSHA AND GARY
FORMAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, Marsha and Gary Forman have deeply involved themselves, both personally and through organizations, in helping their community and the people in it.

For 15 years Marsha has served on the Rockland Jewish Family Service Board. Further, she is Vice President of Community Development for RJFS, Chair of the Outreach Committee, and Co-Chair of the RJFS/ ARC Collaborative Project.

Gary has committed himself to the RJFS, sharing his talents and abilities for fundraising and in the creation and design of the Life Member Wall. Together they have sponsored the RJFS Sunday Social Respite Program for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and the Caregiver Support Group for families with children on the Autism spectrum.

Away from RJFS Marsha has been a school nurse at the Reuben Gittleman School for fourteen years, while Gary is a partner and Executive Vice President of HenschelSteinau. They are parents of Brian and Corrie.

They both have served on the Board of the Gittleman School with the middle school being renamed The Marsha and Gary Forman Middle School. Both serve with numerous community organizations.

I join with Rockland Jewish Family Service in honoring these two wonderful people in recognition of all the good works they have performed for their community.

TRIBUTE TO EDEN HOUSING

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Eden Housing's 40th Anniversary Celebration. Eden Housing, based in Hayward, California, was founded in 1968 by a dedicated group of volunteers committed to expanding housing opportunities for disadvantaged communities. This group of six community activists was concerned about the lack of non-discriminatory, affordable housing in Alameda County.

These pioneers, working out of makeshift "headquarters," such as local coffee shops, were initiated into affordable housing development by rehabilitating six older homes in Oakland for first time homebuyers. Their next project was a much larger development, the 150-unit Josephine Lum Lodge for seniors in Hayward.

Since those pioneering days, Eden Housing has developed 5,072 units of affordable housing for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities. Its buildings are located in 21 cities in six Northern California counties.

Although Eden Housing's initial home base for development was Alameda County, Eden's charter calls for the organization to work wherever there is a need for affordable housing in California.

In the mid-1990s, Eden expanded the scope of affordable housing development to include provisions of free onsite support services and programs for its residents. To design and implement its resident support services, Eden founded an affiliate, Eden Housing Resident Services, Inc.

I join the community in honoring all who have contributed to the success of Eden Housing. The community activists who provided the vision and leadership for the creation and early development of Eden Housing are noteworthy.

Eden Housing continues to revitalize California communities through its affordable housing development and property management activities, through the partnerships it establishes and the investments it makes in California neighborhoods and through the free social services and supportive programs they provide to meet the needs of their residents.

Happy 40th anniversary Eden Housing. I send you my best wishes for many more years of successful service.

H.R. 1415

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of my colleague and dear friend, United States Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, who left us far too soon.

STEPHANIE's fearless passion for social justice, unyielding commitment to improving the

lives of her most vulnerable constituents, and limitless love for her family and friends, will forever resound throughout our Cleveland community and across our nation. Her professional achievements were many—her success as a county prosecutor, municipal judge, trial court judge and Congresswoman are well known, but it was her strength of character in the face of personal hardship, her dedication to and ability in helping others and her luminous zest for life that ran through everything she did. It is these attributes, framed by her hearty laugh and generous heart—that will forever be remembered.

STEPHANIE's life touched and inspired countless lives, young and old, and her energy and positivity knew no bounds—reaching from the block clubs of Cleveland, to the halls of Congress, across the country and around the world. Wherever she went, people were drawn to her quick smile, sharp intellect, easy going nature and passion for making the world a better place. The child of devoted, working class parents, STEPHANIE blazed a trail of possibility and hope for women everywhere, especially for African American women, when she made history upon being elected as the first African American woman from Ohio elected to Congress. STEPHANIE was not afraid to stand up against the tide—she was one of the Representatives to vote "no" to authorizing the use of force in Iraq—an action she believed to be a grave affront to the honor of United States veterans and the honorable service of our United States military women and men.

STEPHANIE's sage advice and ability to get to the heart of the matter was coveted by her family and wide circle of friends. Her warmth, friendship and loyalty inspired and strengthened the lives of many, including my own. People from all walks of life—from United States Senators to the cashier around the corner—called STEPHANIE "friend" and "sister."

STEPHANIE's most cherished roles were as wife and mother. Her unwavering devotion to her family was evidenced her entire life. Together, STEPHANIE and her late husband, Mervyn Jones Sr., raised their son, Mervyn, Jr., who was heart, soul and center of STEPHANIE's life.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of my dear friend and confidant, Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. Our shared experiences—from our Cleveland childhood to standing together in the House of Representatives—was the foundation for a friendship that grew and strengthened over the past thirty years.

Her passing is a profound loss for all of us, and especially for her beloved son, Mervyn, yet her fiery spirit, love for her family and friends, and commitment to serving the most fragile of our society will be forever reflected in those who loved and knew her well—in Cleveland, Washington, and far beyond. The indomitable spirit, love for life and passion for social justice that defined my friend, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, will live on forever, through every friendship she ever forged and within everyone whose life was improved, inspired and lifted because of her, and she will be remembered always.

TRIBUTE TO VINCENT
DARCANGELO

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to Vincent Darcangelo, a constituent of mine who was recently elected State Commander of the Pennsylvania branch of the Disabled American Veterans at the organization's 78th annual state convention.

As state commander, Vince will be responsible for the oversight of the organization and its programs and services. The Hermitage resident also has a seat on the Pennsylvania Veterans Commission and on the "War Council."

I am proud to call Vince my friend and pleased to be able to congratulate him on his achievement. His fellow veterans could not have chosen a more diligent or effective leader.

Vince Darcangelo served in the Air Force from 1967 to 1971. He suffered a permanent disabling injury in 1968 while serving in South Korea. Serving in the security forces, he was assigned to a three-man vehicle patrol at a base bomb depot. A passenger on a Jeep, Vince was assigned to man an M-60 machine gun. While on patrol immediately after a monsoon, the road became very muddy, and the driver lost control of the Jeep which rolled over an embankment where he was injured.

He joined the Disabled American Veterans organization immediately after being discharged in 1971 and has been an active leader ever since. Vince has been the elected commander of the Mercer County Chapter of the DAV for over 20 years. He has served in numerous chairs at the chapter, district and state level of the DAV and recently retired after serving 25 years as a veterans employment representative at the Mercer County CareerLink.

On a personal level, Vince has been married to the former Donna M. Villard for 37 years. They met while he was assigned to a fighter interceptor squadron in Maine in 1969.

Vincent Darcangelo is a man who has served his nation, his community, his state and his family with equal dedication and effectiveness. His service sets an example for us all.

THE DAILY 45: RODRIGO VALLE

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, everyday, on average 45 people—a man, a woman or a child—is fatally shot. On September 11, two teens were arrested in connection with the fatal gang-related shooting of a 13-year-old boy near Santa Ana High School in Santa Ana.

An 18-year-old man and a 16-year-old boy were arrested in connection with the murder of

Rodrigo Valle. According to police, Valle was shot in the chest on September 10th after refusing to respond to the gang question, "Where are you from?"

I personally don't know where the child was from, but I mourn over where he's not going. He's not going to school; he's not going home to his loved ones; and he's not going to discover a cure for cancer, fly to the moon, or start his own family. His life, like the lives of thousand of others this year—was taken as a result of gun violence.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will Americans say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

RECOGNITION OF THE TAIWAN AM-
BASSADOR TO THE UNITED
STATES, JASON C. YUAN

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ambassador Jason C. Yuan on his recent appointment as the Taiwan Representative to the United States. Ambassador Yuan's extraordinary career of diplomatic service spans more than 40 years. His previous assignments include Assistant and Acting Naval Attach, Embassy of the Republic of China in the United States; Representative, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Canada; Ambassador of the Republic of China to Panama; Director General, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles; and Vice Chair, Non Government Organization Affairs Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China. Ambassador Yuan's distinguished career has been marked by numerous awards including the Scholarship Medal and twice the recipient of the Foreign Service Medal. Through his extensive experience in fostering goodwill among nations combined with his admirable sense of duty and commitment to diplomatic service, I say with the utmost of confidence that Mr. Yuan will be a valuable asset to this relationship. I applaud Ambassador Yuan's appointment to this assignment and look forward to working with him for years to come.

ON THE PASSING OF J. PATRICK
ROONEY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I was shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the passing of my friend and mentor, J. Patrick Rooney. Pat Rooney was a man who had a head for business and a heart for "the least of these." Pat Rooney was an inspiring leader, a good friend and a great man.

In addition to building one of the most successful business careers in Indiana, Pat Rooney conceived of and tirelessly promoted re-

form in the areas of education and health care.

He will always be remembered for having launched the first privately funded educational choice program in America, an idea that has been replicated in dozens of cities across America to the benefit of tens of thousands of underprivileged children.

He will also be remembered as the father of the Health Savings Account, the leading free-market reform to the current crisis of the uninsured in America. His unshakeable belief in the ability of the individual to make their own health care choices has shaped the American health care debate for the past decade.

I will miss my friend and mentor Pat Rooney on a very personal level. His ability to challenge and encourage those of us who knew him well was unique among his peers, and I will miss him greatly.

May God bless the life and memory of J. Patrick Rooney.

HONORING ROSE LEIBOW
EISENBERG

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, Rose Leibow Eisenberg was born on September 14, 1908 at home at 38 Jefferson Street in Lower Manhattan, the youngest of four children of Bella and Harry Leibow. Speaking Yiddish at home, Rose learned English in the kindergarten at the Educational Alliance. As the family prospered, they moved uptown, finally settling in the Bronx where Rose attended PS 42 and then Morris High School.

She was the only one of her siblings to seek higher education, graduating from the New York Training School for Teachers in June, 1928. Later she would take graduate work at Teachers College, Columbia, Brooklyn College and Queens College. In August of that year she married Azriel Eisenberg, an educator, to whom she was married for 57 years until his death in 1985. They had two children, a daughter Sora, and a son Judah. Sora is an educator and retired Salomon Schechter Day School principal, married to Aaron Landes, a distinguished Rabbi and retired Rear Admiral in the U.S. Navy. Judah was a world renowned physicist, professor and vice rector of Tel Aviv University.

The Eisenbergs moved frequently as Azriel rose in his field. They lived in Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Philadelphia and finally New York, where Azriel became the Executive Vice President of the Jewish Education Committee, now the Board of Jewish Education. Rose returned to teaching and taught kindergarten at PS 69 in Jackson Heights for sixteen years.

The much beloved and respected matriarch of her family of nine grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren, Rose carried on after the death of her husband and the untimely death of her son. She remains an intellectually sharp and humorous person who is an inspiration to everyone who knows her.

I join her family in wishing her the very best on her 100th birthday.

HONORING FRANK HUMPERT OF
NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Frank Humpert, who is being honored by the Napa Valley College Foundation for his years of service to the students and citizens of Napa County and beyond.

Frank is a native of Napa whose life's work has been advancing educational opportunities for young people in the community. He is a graduate of Napa High School, Napa Valley College, the University of California, Berkeley, Troy State University and the Air Force War College. He served for 37 years in the United States Air Force, retiring with the rank of Major General.

Frank's contributions to Napa Valley College (NVC) have been particularly extraordinary. He served on the NVC Foundation Board of Directors for 20 years, retiring in 2007. During his 20 years on the board, Frank was instrumental in growing the endowed scholarship fund from \$387,000 to over \$2.6 million, helping thousands of students further their education and realize their dreams. He also established the Humpert Family Scholarship Fund, which he contributes to regularly.

Frank is also well known throughout the Napa Valley for his love of football. He played for UC Berkeley in the 1950 Rose Bowl. To this day, he is a constant presence on the Napa High School sidelines and has provided his wisdom, wit and guidance to nearly three generations of Napa High athletes.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Frank Humpert for his many years of service. He has been a model citizen and leader in Napa County and his presence has enriched the lives of everyone in our community. I join his wife Analee, three children, nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren in wishing him continued success and fulfillment.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF PENSACOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Pensacola Junior College, the oldest public two-year college in Florida. The college has served the residents of Northwest Florida with distinction, and it is a privilege to recognize its 60 years of devoted service to the community.

Pensacola Junior College opened its doors in an old boarding house on the corner of Palafox and Cervantes Streets in downtown Pensacola on September 8, 1948. A total of 136 students attended the college that year. During the 2007–2008 academic year, PJC served almost 34,000 students. Today the college has full-service campuses in Pensacola, Warrington, and Milton, as well as a Down-

town Pensacola Center and a Pensacola Naval Air Station Center. The college is in the process of opening new locations in North Escambia County and South Santa Rosa County. Almost 40 percent of graduating seniors from local high schools begin college life at PJC.

Pensacola Junior College is widely recognized as one of the premier two-year colleges in America, offering more than one hundred majors and areas of concentration, along with the latest high-tech resources. The Mary Ek Dahl Smart Center for Patient Simulation Training & Research on the Warrington campus is one of the nation's outstanding nursing education centers. The Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts and the Ashmore Center for the Performing Arts both serve as centers for the area's cultural community. The college's Public Broadcasting Service station, WSRE, provides area residents with quality programming, as well as an abundance of other educational services.

Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges, PJC offers associate of arts degrees, associate of science degrees, and associate of applied science degrees, as well as a multitude of certificate programs. In addition, PJC offers excellent opportunities through its distance learning programs, adult basic education and continuing education departments, dual enrollment program, and adult high school.

PJC is led by an outstanding, local board of trustees, chaired by Mr. Vincent Andry, with Mr. John O'Connor as vice chairman. The college welcomed recently its sixth president, Dr. Ed Meadows. Almost 100,000 students have graduated from PJC over the past 60 years, and more than one million students have attended PJC during its 6 decades of service. It is a privilege to have this outstanding college as an integral part of the Northwest Florida community.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the 60th anniversary of Pensacola Junior College.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENERAL ATHLETIC UNION AND SCOUTS-HOMENETMEN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th Anniversary of the Armenian General Athletic Union and Scouts-Homenetmen, Glendale Ararat Chapter. As an ardent believer in the strong mind in a strong body concept, Homenetmen provides young adults with scouting, moral, physical, health, social and cultural education. Established on December 15, 1978, by seven volunteer members, the Ararat Chapter has served over 14,000 members since its inception.

Ararat's main focus consists of developing and supervising balanced programs for our community's youth. A dedicated staff of eight, assisted by more than 300 volunteers, does a remarkable job of planning, implementing and overseeing year-round supervised after-school and weekend activities for more than 2,300 children, teenagers and young adults between the ages of 7 and 25.

Homenetmen ensures that youngsters are taught civic and cultural values, volunteerism, teamwork, and leadership training in a family-oriented atmosphere, and are kept away from the negative influences of drugs, gangs and crime.

Homenetmen has always been an influential organization in the community. In accordance with their roots in civic duty, they have built close ties with other community and volunteer organizations. Some of Homenetmen's accomplishments include blood drives with the American Red Cross, drug awareness education programs with the Glendale Adventist Medical Center, preparation of holiday lunches and dinners in cooperation with the Salvation Army, graffiti cleanups, participation in cancer walks and visiting senior retirement homes.

Our community is grateful to Homenetmen and honors them as an important resource in shaping the lives of the children in the 29th Congressional District. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Homenetmen, Glendale Ararat Chapter on their 30th anniversary.

HONORING ERNESTINE PIGG

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ernestine Pigg, a remarkable citizen from my congressional district. Ernestine recently marked her 45th consecutive year teaching citizenship classes for legal immigrants.

Ernestine Pigg began teaching citizenship classes at Fort Knox, KY in 1963. Her final class graduated in 2007. Through the years, Ernestine has remained exceptionally generous with her time as she's prepared more than 2,000 students to pass a Federal test to become United States citizens.

In addition to her work with immigrants, Ernestine has also volunteered her services and expertise in foreign languages as a teaching assistant at North Hardin High School in Radcliff, KY and at Armor Office Basic classes at Ft. Knox. She has also assisted Army JROTC students with various fundraising activities and community outreach projects.

It is my great privilege to honor Ernestine Pigg today before the entire United States House of Representatives. Her spirit of volunteerism and special commitment to the future success of her students is a portrait of outstanding citizenship worthy of our collective respect and appreciation.

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL INTEGRATED PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS AND REPORTABLE CONDITIONS ACT

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues, Congresswoman BALDWIN (WI-02) and Congressman TOWNS (NY-

10) on the introduction of the National Integrated Public Health Surveillance Systems and Reportable Conditions Act which addresses a critical aspect of our public health system in the United States: our science infrastructure at all levels of government.

That infrastructure, primarily applied epidemiology, laboratory science, and public health informatics, has greatly improved since the mid-1990s, but has not kept pace with the challenges we face today, such as increased foodborne disease outbreaks, emerging infections such as West Nile Virus, growing antimicrobial resistance, pandemic flu, and environmental health threats, particularly to clean air and water.

Many parts of the local-State-Federal disease surveillance system remain fragmented and paper-based, and have not fully benefited from new technologies that could improve the thoroughness and timeliness of reporting. Only two State public health laboratories have bidirectional data flow and can both send and receive laboratory messages, the gold standard for disease reporting. The potential for new pathogen discovery, rapid electronic exchange of public health information, national bacterial and viral databases for DNA "fingerprinting" of infectious disease organisms has not been fully realized.

Madam Speaker, we need a robust, universal, 21st century public health infrastructure that is strengthened at all levels of government to meet these challenges.

The bill we are introducing today will achieve that goal. It will require a very modest expansion of resources, renewed focus and mission, and new areas of special emphasis for several existing programs within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which have never before been authorized. These programs will give public health institutions the capacity to identify and monitor the occurrence of infectious diseases and other conditions of public health importance. It will also improve the detection of new and emerging infectious disease threats, including laboratory capacity to detect antimicrobial resistant infections, identify and respond to disease outbreaks, and hire and train necessary professional staff.

The bill also focuses on improving electronic disease surveillance and reporting by requiring the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control to adopt, within 180 days of enactment, guidelines for public health entities to ensure that all State and local health departments and public health laboratories have access to receive, monitor, and report infectious diseases and other urgent conditions of public health importance. These guidelines will be coordinated with the office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and the American Health Information Community.

Grant mechanisms for achieving complete, and updated electronic disease reporting by State and local health departments, and public health laboratories are also delineated and modestly enhanced to ensure the Nation has a seamless, rapid information flow of disease detection and reporting.

We are facing workforce shortages in many areas of our health and public health system. Three recent surveys conducted by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists have established that the number and level of training of epidemiologists is perceived as se-

riously deficient in most States. The need to increase, well-trained, core public health science professionals is addressed in this bill. Fellowship training for key elements of the public health workforce, applied epidemiologists, laboratory scientists and public health informaticians, is authorized and modest funding targets provided.

The bill also authorizes, for the first time, a process for determining a list of nationally notifiable diseases and conditions. The provisions are modeled on the existing process of collaboration between the States and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but provide clarity and structure that enables Congress to monitor and support improvements as events and technology require.

Madam Speaker, the "National Integrated Public Health Surveillance Systems and Reportable Conditions Act" will enhance the Nation's public health capacity by strengthening its core science infrastructure and ensuring a seamless, rapid flow of information. It will help us meet the serious public health challenges of today and tomorrow. I urge my colleagues to consider the benefits of this bill and join as a cosponsor and support its enactment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on September 8, 9, 10 and 11 during rollcall votes 567 through 588. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 567, "yea" on rollcall vote 568, "yea" on rollcall vote 569, "yea" on rollcall vote 570, "yea" on rollcall vote 571, "yea" on rollcall vote 572, "yea" on rollcall vote 573, "yea" on rollcall vote 574, "yea" on rollcall vote 575, "yea" on rollcall vote 576, "yea" on rollcall vote 577, "yea" on rollcall vote 578, "yea" on rollcall vote 579, "yea" on rollcall vote 580, "yea" on rollcall vote 581, "yea" on rollcall vote 582, "yea" on rollcall vote 583, "yea" on rollcall vote 584, "yea" on rollcall vote 585, "yea" on rollcall vote 586, "yea" on rollcall vote 587, and "yea" on rollcall vote 588.

HONORING THE ART INSTITUTE OF FORT LAUDERDALE

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the achievements of the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale on its 40th anniversary. Since opening its doors in 1968, the Art Institute has helped countless students grow artistically and develop skills vital to the many industries that graduates of the Art Institute choose.

Just some of the notable Art Institute alumni include: three-time Pulitzer-prize winning photojournalist Carol Guzy, American fantasy artist Tony DiTerlizzi, and fashion designer and tennis world champion Venus Williams.

Currently, the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale is composed of 15 art departments, two

applied-art schools, and the International Culinary School. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale continues to raise the bar in South Florida higher education.

The Art Institute works with Broward, Palm Beach, and Miami-Dade county high schools to help a broader range of students achieve their professional goals through art education. I would like to congratulate the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale on its first 40 years of expansion and success and wish it all the best in the future.

HONORING THE WESTCARE FOUNDATION'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the WestCare Foundation, headquartered in Las Vegas, which is celebrating its 35th Anniversary this year.

The WestCare story begins in 1973, the same year that saw the launch of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). In that year, a residential treatment program called Fitzsimmons House, or "Fitz House," was begun in Las Vegas. Adopting the therapeutic community treatment modality, Fitz House focused on long-term care for hard-core adult male heroin addicts. Within a few years, WestCare responded to the community's need for expanded substance abuse and mental health treatment and made available services to women and individuals abusing drugs other than heroin.

By 1981, the Fitz House program had expanded to include adult outpatient and day treatment services, as well as substance abuse education. Within 3 years, they acquired what is now known as the Youth Residential Program for Adolescents, and one year later they added a day treatment component for probationers and parolees. Collaboration with Juvenile Court Services and the Nevada Association of Counties led to the establishment of the Regional Family Resource Center in 1986 to provide crisis intervention, substance abuse assessments and referral/placement services for youth and families. In the following year the agency that began as Fitzsimmons House officially adopted the name of WestCare.

By 1992, WestCare had extended its focus on special populations to include school-based substance abuse education and prevention for Hispanic youth. Soon neighboring states were beginning to take notice. After meeting with a group of citizens from the tri-state region of Laughlin, Nevada/Needles, California/Bullhead City, Arizona, the Colorado River Region Youth Service Project (CRRYS) was established in Mohave County, Arizona to address gaps in services for youth corrections and child welfare referrals. Ironically, the program was based in a facility originally constructed to conceal a 10,000-square foot marijuana-growing operation shut down by the DEA.

That group of citizens from the tri-state region would become the first in a series of local boards which oversee WestCare's community-based agencies. That pattern was soon repeated in Fresno, California when WestCare assumed the fiscal and clinical management

of The Third Floor. Originated in 1974, the program provides critical substance abuse treatment and prevention programs as well as support services for the homeless and families in need—over 3,000 persons annually—and is currently one of the largest community-based programs in California.

From there, WestCare expanded its efforts to the other states now covered by its work (Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Nevada and the Virgin Islands.) Now, under the direction of its national leadership, over 1,100 dedicated staff members provide care at 74 service sites. But Nevada retains the distinction of being home to the WestCare Foundation National Office.

Today, the WestCare Foundation is a national non-profit organization with a depth of experience in providing the full continuum of substance abuse and addiction treatment services, including a broad array of health and human services, in both community-based residential and outpatient treatment environments. Specializing in those historically considered difficult to treat, the WestCare family of organizations provides quality substance abuse treatment services to adults, children and families throughout its service areas.

Madam Speaker, I know you share my excitement and pride in the work of West Care and join me in congratulating them on 35 years of exceptional service in the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF WADLEY, ALABAMA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition the historic town of Wadley, Alabama. On September 13, 2008, the citizens of Wadley will gather to celebrate their town's 100th anniversary.

The town began as a single store established by Mr. Minus Radney in 1906 to serve workers on the AB&A railway which passed through the town. The same year, Mr. Fuller E. Callaway, owner of the Callaway Development Company of LaGrange, laid out plans to acquire land and construct a model community. On September 15, 1908, Wadley was officially incorporated with a population of just 333. One month later, the town opened for settlement and investment with special events and train rates to promote the growth of the new community.

Today, Wadley is home to 640 citizens as well as Southern Union State Community College. The centennial festivities will begin with a parade down Main Street, and continue with performances from a number of local musicians. Play areas for children, storytelling and crafts demonstrations will also be open to residents.

I am pleased to recognize the town of Wadley for reaching this important milestone, and look forward to being a part of its future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN CARTER

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to today to pay tribute to Dr. John Carter, a physician and community leader in Southwest Michigan who is retiring from the Board of Directors of Lakeland Health Care in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Dr. John Carter's contributions and innovative spirit are legendary. Across the region he was known as a caring, compassionate man who put his patients first. He created the first Intensive Care Unit at Mercy Hospital in Benton Harbor. Later that same year, he partnered with two other local physicians for the area's first multi-specialty medical center that became the Cedarwood Center in St. Joseph. Dr. Carter also brought the computer-analyzed EKG system to the state of Michigan.

Dr. John Carter not only took care of his patients, but also became a leader in the community. He was appointed to the Board of Directors of both Cedarwood and Lakeland Health Care. He was part of a group of local investors who built the area's first health and racquet club, and he found time to volunteer in a good number of community organizations.

Dr. John Carter was born in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and moved to Michigan where he graduated from Kalamazoo High School and went on to Western Michigan University. He attended medical school at the University of Michigan and also served in the United States Air Force.

Southwest Michigan is fortunate that Dr. John Carter decided to look for a place along Lake Michigan. Thousands of people have been touched by his ability to create a healing and caring community, and we are all better off for it. He and his wife Barb and their family have always made a real difference for so many.

IN TRIBUTE TO JAMES R. MCMANUS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 74TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a true American institution—James R. McManus, who has led the McManus Midtown Democratic Association since 1963, on the occasion of his 74th birthday. Jim McManus has devoted his life to New York politics and to his community. He is a warm and generous friend, and a thoughtful advisor to generations of politicians.

Politics is in Jim's blood. He was born into one of the great political families. His great-uncle Thomas J. McManus (widely known as "The McManus" or just simply "The") earned the respect of the entire political world by defeating George Washington Plunkitt, one of the most powerful members of Tammany Hall, to win the position of District Leader. He later became a New York State Assemblyman and State Senator. Jim's great-uncle Charles A.

McManus was Vice President of the Board of Aldermen, the predecessor to the New York City Council. His father, Eugene McManus, was a local District Leader. And Jim McManus has followed the family tradition and proudly serves as District Leader and leader of the McManus Midtown Democratic Association.

Under Jim's leadership, the McManus Midtown Democratic Association is one of the few political clubs that continue to consider service to the community to be one of their prime responsibilities. People turn to the club for help with housing, social services, immigration, education, ESL classes and other concerns. Through the years, they have helped thousands of local residents and businesses resolve difficult problems.

Jim McManus worked for 12 years in the production department of The New York Times, and subsequently was a senior administrator of the Board of Elections. He has also worked with the family funeral home. Throughout, politics was Jim's first love and his chief preoccupation. Jim loves his neighborhood, his city and his country, and he has always worked to improve the quality of life in his community. He is a giant in New York's Democratic Party. His advice and good wishes are deeply valued.

Of all the events on the political calendar, the one I have always liked best is the St. Patrick's Day Breakfast hosted by Jim McManus and a few fortunate others. Everyone who is anyone in New York politics views this event as a mandatory stop—politicians from both parties, Mayors, Senators, Congressmembers, local elected officials all stop by to pay homage to the Irish, and to salute the magnificent Jim McManus.

Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing one of New York's great political forces—the incomparable James McManus.

CHATSWORTH TRAIN CRASH TRAGEDY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, on Friday, September 12, 2008, a Metrolink commuter train collided with a freight train near Chatsworth, California. Most of the passengers were residents of my congressional district, on their way home from the Los Angeles area. Twenty-five people have been killed and many more critically injured. It was the deadliest train accident in this country in fifteen years.

It is also the second deadly crash on this commuter line in three years. This one however, was much worse. As gas prices have skyrocketed, Southern California commuters have increasingly turned to rail service. Among the dead and injured are law enforcement personnel, educators, civil servants, students, and others, who were doing their best to save time and money while avoiding some of the worst congestion in the country. As reports continue to come in regarding the cause of this tragedy, my neighbors in Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Camarillo, Ventura, Santa Paula, and other communities in Ventura County now mourn for their loved ones.

I would like to express my condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in this tragedy and offer comfort to those who are injured. I assure them we will do everything we can to determine the cause and to ensure that something like this never happens again.

ON THE BIRTH OF ALEXANDER
JACOB LEE AIMAR

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Allen and Amber Aimar on the birth of their new baby boy. Alexander Jacob Lee Aimar was born on September 11, 2008, weighing five pounds and five ounces. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future.

His father, Allen, serves as the military legislative assistant in the Office of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina. His mother, Amber, is a former member of our staff who served as deputy campaign manager during my 2001 run for Congress, as a field representative, and as our office manager.

I want to congratulate Alexander's grandparents, Pete and Andi Riddell of Westerville, Ohio, Allen and Deborah Aimar of Johnson City, Tennessee, and Greg and Marian Erickson of Beaufort, South Carolina. On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish Allen, Amber, and Alexander all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 567: On motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 2403, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 568: On motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 2837. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 569: On motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 2135, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 570: On motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 344, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 571: On motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 937, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 572: On motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 1069, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 573: On motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 1307, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 574: On motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 6168. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 575: On motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 6630, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

HONORING 30 YEARS OF
HOSPICECARE IN SOUTHERN
WISCONSIN

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 30th anniversary of HospiceCare Inc. From its humble beginnings as a small grassroots operation serving a handful of patients in Southern Wisconsin, Dane County Hospice, now HospiceCare, has grown into an organization that serves over 400 patients each day throughout the area in a variety of settings. HospiceCare's Madison and Janesville locations maintain a staff of more than 500 professionals and nearly 1,000 volunteers.

The term "hospice" originates from the root word "hospitality." It is with this foundation in mind that HospiceCare seeks to carry out its mission of providing quality end-of-life care to patients and families coping with life-limiting illnesses. HospiceCare's comprehensive and collaborative team of professionals combines expert pain and symptom management with compassionate care to ensure that individuals diagnosed with life-limiting illnesses live the end of their lives in comfort and with dignity, whether they are in their own home or in a hospital, community based residential facility, nursing home, or assisted living facility.

Since its founding in 1978, HospiceCare has become an essential component of our community's fabric. As an innovator, educator, and above all, a quality care provider, HospiceCare has shown the way to a more peaceful end-of-life experience for a growing number of patients and their loved ones. In 1995, HospiceCare merged with Janesville Team Care to bring HospiceCare's brand of quality and commitment to the Rock County area. In the last decade alone, HospiceCare has planned, built, and opened the Don and Marilyn Anderson HospiceCare Center, the only freestanding, inpatient hospice unit in Dane County, and more recently, the Ellen & Peter Johnson HospiceCare Residence to provide care to patients in a residential setting on the HospiceCare campus.

These accomplishments have brought HospiceCare closer to achieving its long-term vision of "building a community in which exceptional end-of-life care is accepted, expected and available to all." I am proud to stand with HospiceCare in order to make that vision a reality.

For 30 years of continued service and commitment to families across Wisconsin, I congratulate HospiceCare Inc. and wish all those involved many more years of success in the future.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENT
OF ED LOVE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to make express my gratitude for my fellow jazz enthusiast and Detroit, Ed Love. For more than 24 years, Ed Love has delighted listeners with Destination Jazz: The Ed Love Program on weekdays from 7 pm to midnight on WDET 101.9FM. Ed's passion for jazz and radio extends all the way back to his youth in Kansas, when he was an avid listener of his mother's records and hosts like Dick Martin of WWL in New Orleans. After graduating from broadcasting school, Ed worked for Armed Forces Radio in several states and in the Philippines. Starting in 1960, he worked at various stations throughout Detroit until joining WDET in 1983. Ed has not only entertained Detroit radio listeners throughout his impressive career, but also spent six years hosting a nationally syndicated program entitled "The Evolution of Jazz," educating and entertaining listeners on 125 stations from coast to coast.

Ed was honored for his contribution to the world of jazz with the "Distinguished Achievement Award" from the Motor City Music Foundation. Ed was recognized by the Friends of the Detroit Institute of Arts with the "Dr. Alan Locke Award" in 1999 for his contributions to the arts. He's earned two "Spirit of Detroit Awards" from Detroit Mayors Coleman A. Young and Dennis W. Archer. The Michigan House of Representatives, the Michigan Senate, the Congressional Black Caucus and the National Broadcast Awards have all recognized him for his profound knowledge and love of jazz. The Southeast Michigan Jazz Association (SEMJA) recognized Ed for his outstanding contribution to jazz and the arts. In 2005, Ed received the "Detroit Jazz Guardian" Award from the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts and the Detroit International Jazz Festival. Ed was also honored in 2005 with the "Distinguished Arts Achievement" award from the Oakland County chapter of The Links. He has also served as the senior program consultant for the Detroit International Jazz Festival since 2000.

In the wake of the collapse of the International Association of Jazz Educators, Ed Love and other jazz advocates will be even more important in the preservation of one of our nation's treasures and original art forms, jazz. I know that as long as jazz has stewards like Ed Love, we can be assured that it will be taught and will thrive the future. Through his work, Ed Love has and will continue to inspire generations of performers, educators, and students for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD votes I would have cast had I been present for rollcall votes

585 through 588. I was absent on Thursday, September 11th due to a family event.

If I were present I would have voted, "aye" on rollcall vote 585, "aye" on rollcall vote 586, "aye" on rollcall vote 587, and "aye" on rollcall vote 588.

THE HEALTH-E INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 2008

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Health-e Information Technology Act of 2008, a bill to stimulate the development of a uniform, interoperable health information technology system for America. Such a system would enable every hospital and doctor to input a patient's information and pull up their medical record—all on-line and readily available. It would also make data available to researchers so that we could improve the practice of medicine.

Health Information Technology (HIT) is the key to improving quality, gaining efficiencies, and reducing cost in the U.S. health care system. That's something that even people ranging from President Bush to BARACK OBAMA can agree on.

If the United States had such a system, we would be able to provide the right care, to the patient, at the right time. A nationwide HIT system would:

Ensure that every hospital could access an emergency room patient's medical record to appropriately treat them.

Reduce duplicative lab tests. One study found that 9 percent of all lab tests were redundant and that physicians canceled 69 percent of lab tests when their HIT systems alerted them to the redundancy.

More quickly eradicate outbreaks of disease because the HIT system would allow us to analyze where people were sick and what they had in common.

More effectively conduct post-market surveillance on drugs approved by the FDA to ensure that they really are safe and effective once they are on the market. According to the FDA, Vioxx may have contributed to 27,785 heart attacks and sudden cardiac deaths between 1999 and 2003. Providers with health IT systems were able to closely monitor their Vioxx patients and take them off Vioxx at the first sign of harm.

Dramatically reduce the use of paper records which—on top of being cumbersome and environmentally unfriendly—also cause medical errors because of difficulty interpreting handwriting and an inability to easily detect orders that are inappropriate for the patient, given their age, allergies, health conditions, and other drugs they may be taking. One study found that 1.4 percent of hospital admissions were caused by adverse drug events, 28 percent of which were preventable, and at a cost of \$10,000 per preventable event.

There is no debate over whether we need such a HIT system in America. The debate is over the right role for government to foster the widespread adoption of such an interoperable, seamless HIT system. In this debate, it is vitally important to ensure that such a system has strong privacy protections and security requirements.

Some might say let the private sector do it. I'd respond that we've tried that and it's failed. Currently only 20–30 percent of hospitals and 10–20 percent of physicians' offices have comprehensive health information systems. Even where systems are in place, they operate in silos and do not provide the aggregate data needed to improve quality of care. One reason for this failure is that private industry has spawned the development of unique proprietary systems. These systems may work well for the doctor's office or hospital system that purchases it, but they are unable to perform outside of their own network and therefore fail to meet the need of integrating our disparate health care system. This lack of progress is costing U.S. taxpayers millions of dollars. Studies have indicated that widespread adoption of HIT could reduce health care spending by \$80 million annually.

Just last week at a hearing before the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, a representative for the California Association of Physician Groups (which represents large physician group practices in California) acknowledged that, while each of their member groups had adopted HIT, those systems were unable to talk to each other. The groups had each spent millions of dollars and suffered through reduced productivity during the transition, but their systems still cannot advance the practice of medicine in the United States or engage in other activities to achieve broader system efficiencies and quality improvements.

That's why, in my mind, it is so important for the Federal Government to step into the arena of HIT. Not because I think Government is better than the private sector. But, because I think that if our Government has decided that a uniform, interoperable HIT system is a priority, we should step up to the plate to create the standards and help pay for its adoption. That's precisely what the Health-e Information Technology Act does.

The Health-e Information Technology Act would codify the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology within the Department of Health and Human Services. The National Coordinator—with the assistance of an advisory committee representing private stakeholders and other appropriate public agencies—would be responsible for establishing and implementing a plan to achieve widespread adoption and use of interoperable, secure, and clinically useful electronic health records. In addition, the Coordinator would develop an open source health information technology system that is certified to meet the standards and would be available to health care providers at little or no cost in 2012, after the standards are established in 2011. Private vendors would be part of the process and would be encouraged to ensure that their products meet the new federal standards as well.

The bill would utilize the strength and size of the Medicare program as a tool to assure the adoption of these standards. Starting by 2013, Medicare would provide supplementary payments to doctors and hospitals (each up to a capped amount) to help offset the cost of purchasing new HIT equipment, transitioning to its use, and training personnel. These incentive payments would phase-out on a sliding scale over a four or five year period, for hospitals and doctors respectively. After that timeframe, if doctors or hospitals failed to use an HIT system that meets the defined stand-

ards, they would be penalized by a reduction in their Medicare reimbursements. As not all health care providers are reimbursed by Medicare, there are grant programs to assure assistance to them as well.

Maintaining the privacy and security of people's electronic health records is of vital importance. The Health-e Information Technology Act takes the protections afforded by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, and updates them for the 21st century. It provides for protections to reach new entities in the e-health environment that were not envisaged by HIPAA, such as e-prescribing gateways and regional health information organizations, and addresses the increased migration of personal health information out of the traditional medical system through business associates. It shuts down the secondary market that has emerged around the sale and mining of patient health information by prohibiting the sale of patient information and applying stiff penalties to any individual or entity that uses or discloses health information in an unauthorized way. The bill also develops a culture of privacy protection through tough enforcement. To date, the Secretary has not levied a single penalty against a HIPAA covered entity, despite numerous privacy and security violations. This bill strengthens the enforcement of privacy and security protections by increasing the amount of civil monetary penalties that may be levied, requiring the Secretary to levy penalties in cases where violations rise to the level of willful neglect, and holding the Secretary accountable for actively enforcing the provisions through period audits and reports.

I recently sat down with the chairman of a major medical association, the head of a physician group practice organization, and two former Medicare and Medicaid administrators—one for a Democratic president and the other for a Republican president. All four of them agreed that without a date certain in law by which a uniform, interoperable HIT system must be used by all of America's doctors and hospitals, it simply won't happen. They also agreed that, while it won't be easy, it is vital that we form consensus around such legislation. They, too, acknowledged that a system that provides financial incentives for adoption, with eventual penalties for failure to adopt, is a sensible way to proceed.

With introduction of the Health-e Information Technology Act, I hope that we can move from the realm of private discussions to public endorsements. I am under no illusions that it will be easy to enact a bill like this. While the Congressional Budget Office has not yet provided a score for the legislation, we know that it will have significant costs. But down-payments are required to achieve yield on long-term investments. I am confident that a uniform HIT system will ultimately lead to dramatic improvements in the delivery system and reap great savings once it is in place.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, as well as physician and hospital organizations, to enact legislation to require the development and adoption of a uniform HIT system. We've been talking about this for decades. It is now time to act.

HONORING THE LINCOLN TRAIL
AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay public tribute to the Lincoln Trail Area Development District (LTADD), a public agency in my congressional district that promotes regional economic growth by creating partnerships with local, civic and governmental leaders. LTADD will mark their 40th year of service during ceremonies scheduled later this month.

The Lincoln Trail Area Development District was created as a non-profit corporation in March 1968. Four years later, the organization

was designated as a public agency under KRS 147a and assigned a development district that includes the west-central Kentucky counties of Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson and Washington.

Since its formation, LTADD has adhered to a philosophy that conscientious personal attention provided to communities they serve will ensure long and mutually beneficial relationships. Their mission to develop innovative, economical and socially acceptable solutions to difficult community problems remains the trademark of LTADD's success as they begin their fourth decade.

The Lincoln Trail Area Development District includes major population centers, businesses, and tourism destinations including the birthplace and boyhood home of Abraham Lincoln and the Fort Knox Army Installation. The

agency continues to play a significant role in coordinating community transitional needs resulting from the 2005 BRAC-mandated mission realignment at Ft. Knox.

LTADD currently employs a staff of over 40 planners, administrators and support personnel who manage a region that includes more than 243,000 residents and 35 local government bodies.

It is my great privilege to recognize the exceptional board of directors and staff of the Lincoln Trail Area Development District for all that they do to promote the economic vitality of local communities and enhance quality of life for those who live and work within the district. The objectives and collective achievements of this special organization are worthy of our honor and respect.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

SH-216

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Patrick W. Dunne, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine S. 1387, to amend the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 to provide for greenhouse gases, S. 2080, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to ensure that sewage treatment plants monitor for and report discharges of raw sewage, H.R. 1464, to assist in the conservation of rare felids and rare canids by supporting and providing financial resources for the conservation programs of nations within the range of rare felid and rare canid populations and projects of persons with demonstrated expertise in the conservation of rare felid and rare canid populations, H.R. 1771, to assist in the conservation of cranes by supporting and providing, through projects of persons and organizations with expertise in crane conservation, financial resources for the conservation programs of countries the activities of which directly or indirectly affect cranes and the ecosystems of cranes, H.R. 3224, to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to establish a program to provide grant assistance to States for the rehabilitation and repair of deficient dams, H.R. 3999 and S. 3338, bills to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of Federal-aid highway bridges, to strengthen bridge inspection standards and processes, to increase investment in the reconstruction of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System, H.R. 5001, to authorize the Administrator of General Services to provide for the redevelopment of the Old Post Office Building located in the District of Columbia, S.

2970, to enhance the ability of drinking water utilities in the United States to develop and implement climate change adaptation programs and policies, S. 1828, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study of the feasibility of increasing the consumption in the United States of certain ethanol-blended gasoline, and other pending legislation.

SD-406

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Russia's aggression against Georgia, focusing on the consequences and responses.

SD-419

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine 401(k) plan fee disclosure, focusing on helping workers save for retirement.

SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 3474, to amend title 44, United States Code, to enhance information security of the Federal Government, S. 3384, to amend section 11317 of title 40, United States Code, to require greater accountability for cost overruns on Federal IT investment projects, H.R. 2631, to strengthen efforts in the Department of Homeland Security to develop nuclear forensics capabilities to permit attribution of the source of nuclear material, H.R. 6098, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the financial assistance provided to State, local, and tribal governments for information sharing activities, H.R. 3815, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to make full and efficient use of open source information to develop and disseminate open source homeland security information products, S. 3176, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to provide mental health and substance abuse services, an original bill to establish a controlled unclassified information framework, H.R. 6073, to provide that Federal employees receiving their pay by electronic funds transfer shall be given the option of receiving their pay stubs electronically, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for 8 weeks of paid leave for Federal employees giving birth, S. 3350, to provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances, S. 3477, to amend title 44, United States Code, to authorize grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence, H.R. 5975 and S. 3317, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Main Street in Waterville, New York, as the "Cpl. John P. Sigsbee Post Office", H.R. 6092, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 Tallapoosa Street in Bremen, Georgia, as the "Sergeant Paul Saylor Post Office Building", S. 3309, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2523 7th Avenue East in North Saint Paul, Minnesota, as the Mayor William "Bill" Sandberg Post Office Building, H.R. 6437, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 North Texas Avenue in Odessa, Texas, as the "Corporal Alfred Mac Wilson Post Office", and

the nominations of Ruth Y. Goldway, of California, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, and Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, and Thomas M. Beck, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

SD-342

10:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine pending Corporation for Public Broadcasting nominations.

SR-253

Aging

To hold hearings to examine direct-to-consumer medical device advertising, focusing on marketing and medicine.

SD-562

3 p.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the role of Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) institutions in advancing human rights and democracy.

2325, Rayburn Building

SEPTEMBER 18

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine federal declinations to prosecute crimes in Indian country.

SD-628

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold oversight hearings to examine clean-up efforts at federal facilities.

SD-406

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 3259, to amend title 11, United States Code, with respect to the priority of certain high cost credit debts, H.R. 3971, to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, S. Res. 540, recognizing the historical significance of the sloop-of-war USS Constellation as a reminder of the participation of the United States in the transatlantic slave trade and of the efforts of the United States to end the slave trade, the nominations of Clark Waddoups, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, Michael M. Anello, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, Mary Stenson Scriven, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, Christine M. Arguello, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, Philip A. Brimmer, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, and Gregory G. Garre, of Maryland, to be Solicitor General of the United States, George W. Venables, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of California, and A. Brian Albritton, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, all of the Department of Justice, and the authorization for subpoenas relating to the Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel.

SH-216

10:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine recent bank failures and the response of regulators.

SD-538

2 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the homeland security risks associated with the upcoming presidential transition, the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) planning for the transition, and what remains to be done to prepare for the transition.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine transparency in accounting, proposed changes to accounting for off-balance sheet entities.

SD-538

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the Agreement for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation with India.

SD-419

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine bus safety.

SR-253

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

SEPTEMBER 23

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings to examine food marketing to children.

SD-192

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold oversight hearings to examine the transition to digital television, focusing on the February 2009 deadline.

SR-253

SEPTEMBER 24

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine cooperation and collaboration by the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Defense on information technology efforts.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the imbalance in United States-Korea automobile trade.

SR-253

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Visa Waiver Program, focusing on mitigating risks to ensure the safety of all Americans.

SH-216

CANCELLATIONS

SEPTEMBER 17

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine protected marine areas, focusing on federal and state efforts to conserve, manage, and restore marine resources.

SR-253